

process. Once the Department of Labor made a decision it certainly is nothing in the legislation that is a binding decision, hopefully that both sides would live up to that decision and that would be the end and hopefully there would be corrections made or not corrections made if the decision was made that the grievance was not appropriate. At that particular point, I would assume, if one side did not wish to follow what the Department of Labor recommended, that there would have to be a decision by one of the entities as in all cases whether to go to court.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Well, I guess two other questions I'd like to ask if you don't mind. Just for clarification.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Yes, sir.

SENATOR VRTISKA: One of the questions has to do with if they go to, for example, if they go to Federal Railway for a determination, in fact, aren't there tax dollars being spent in order to resolve those issues at the federal level?

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Not state tax dollars, no.

SENATOR VRTISKA: But there are tax dollars.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: If you refer to any money that I may put in to hire an attorney through an association, that is money that would be money that I may spend on my personal taxes, I'd say yes, but otherwise in my guesstimation, my answer to the question would be no.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Well, I guess my point being is if there is dollars being spent, and I understand it's about \$2.5 million at the federal level, wouldn't it, in fact, appear that there would be state dollars spent if the same thing were handed down to the state level?

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: No, sir, because what, in fact, what we would do by this bill is actually make it so that there wouldn't be, hopefully, 2.5, whatever million dollars spent at the federal level. One of the advantages of this particular bill is trying to encourage people not to spend money, not to go to the federal level. What we're saying is that the Department of Labor for \$2,200 or whatever the A bill is on this particular point would be able to sit in, and if they felt it was a